

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-10 (cancelled)

Claim 11 (currently amended) A cosmetic preparation, comprising:

(a) water soluble β - (1,3) glucans, ~~which exclusively show β with naturally intact β - (1,6 3) linkages in side chains, wherein the side chains comprise β - (1,3) linkages or 0-4 consecutive~~ and are substantially free from β - (1,6) linkages, and

(b) chitosans

Claim 12 (previously presented) The preparation of claim 1, wherein the chitosans have a molecular weight of around 50,000 to 500,000 Daltons.

Claim 13 (previously presented) The preparation of claim 1, wherein the chitosans have a molecular weight of around 800,000 to 1,200,000 Daltons.

Claim 14 (previously presented) The preparation of claim 1, wherein said preparation comprises carboxylated chitosans.

Claim 15 (previously presented) The preparation of claim 1, wherein said preparation comprises succinilated chitosans.

Claim 16 (previously presented) The preparation of claim 1, wherein said preparation comprises

(a) 0.01 to 25% by weight of said β -(1,3) glucans, and

(b) 0.01 to 5% by weight of chitosans,

provided that the stated amounts are supplemented with water as well as optionally other auxiliaries and additional agents up to 100% by weight.

Claim 17 (currently amended) A method of treating aging of the skin on a patient in need thereof comprising applying to the skin a preparation comprising:

(a) water soluble β -(1,3) glucans ~~which exclusively show~~ with naturally intact β -(1,6 3) linkages in linked side chains and are substantially free from comprising β -(1,6 3) linkages or 0-4 consecutive β -(1,6) linkages, and

(b) chitosans.

Claim 18 (previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the chitosans have a molecular weight of around 50,000 to 500,000 Daltons.

Claim 19 (previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the chitosans have a molecular weight of around 800,000 to 1,200,000 Daltons.

Claim 20 (previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein said method comprises carboxylated chitosans.

Claim 21 (previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein said method comprises succinilated chitosans.

Claim 22 (previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein said method comprises

(a) 0.01 to 25% by weight of said β -(1,3) glucans, and

(b) 0.01 to 5% by weight of chitosans,

provided that the stated amounts are supplemented with water as well as optionally other auxiliaries and additional agents up to 100% by weight.

Claim 23 (currently amended) A method of treating rough skin on a patient in need thereof, comprising applying to the skin a composition comprising:

(a) water soluble β -(1,3)-glucans, ~~which exclusively show~~ with naturally intact β -(1,6 3) linkages in linked side chains and are substantially free from comprising β -(1,6 3) linkages or consecutive β -(1,6) linkages, and

(b) chitosans

Claim 24 (previously presented) The method of claim 23, wherein the chitosans have a molecular weight of around 50,000 to 500,000 Daltons.

Claim 25 (previously presented) The method of claim 23, wherein the chitosans have a molecular weight of around 800,000 to 1,200,000 Daltons.

Claim 26 (previously presented) The method of claim 23, wherein said method comprises carboxylated chitosans.

Claim 27 (previously presented) The method of claim 23, wherein said method comprises succinilated chitosans.

Claim 28 (previously presented) The method of claim 23, wherein said method comprises

(a) 0.01 to 25% by weight of said β -(1,3) glucans, and

(b) 0.01 to 5% by weight of chitosans,

provided that the stated amounts are supplemented with water as well as optionally other auxiliaries and additional agents up to 100% by weight.